

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please **REWRITE** claims 7, 12, 14, 16 and 22-23. Please **CANCEL** claims 1-6, 8-11, 13, 20-21 and 24-30. For the Examiner's convenience, this Amendment includes the text of all claims under examination, a parenthetical expression for each claim to indicate the current status of the claim, and markings to show the changes to a claim relative to the immediate prior version of that claim.

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The muzzle stabilizer of claim 6 wherein the threaded engagement of the gas regulator and tubular body comprises a thread pattern of 28 or more threads per inch~~ A muzzle stabilizer for a rapid-fire repeating firearm comprising:

a tubular body comprising two or more gas vents, wherein a first gas vent, nearest to a first end of the tubular body, has an angle that is perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the tubular body, and a second gas vent, nearest to a second end of the tubular body, has an angle that is non-parallel to the angle of the first gas vent;

an attachment flange connected to the second end of the tubular body, the attachment flange having a coupler adapted to mate with a corresponding coupler on the end of the muzzle of the firearm;

a gas regulator threadedly engaged with the first end of the tubular body such that rotation of the gas regulator adjusts the venting of gas through at least one of the two or more gas vents, the threaded engagement of the gas regulator and tubular body comprising a thread pattern of 28 or more threads per inch; and

a spring indent biased into the interior of the tubular body, wherein the gas regulator comprises six or more circumferentially arranged index grooves for incrementally engaging the spring indent.

8-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The muzzle stabilizer of claim 8~~ A muzzle stabilizer adapted to be attached to the end of a rapid-fire repeating firearm muzzle, the muzzle stabilizer comprising:

a tubular body having an inner diameter and a plurality of gas vents, wherein a first gas vent, nearest a first end of the tubular body, has an angle that is perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the tubular body, and a second gas vent, nearest a second end of the tubular body, has an angle that is non-parallel to the angle of the first gas vent;

an attachment flange connected to the second end of the tubular body, the attachment flange having a coupler corresponding with a coupler on the end of the muzzle and an inner diameter different from that of the tubular body;

the inner diameter of the attachment flange defining a first expansion chamber stage and the inner diameter of the tubular body defining a second expansion chamber stage, wherein gas produced during discharge of a projectile will expand as it travels from the muzzle through the first and second stages; and

a gas regulator adjustably engaged with the first end of the tubular body for regulating the venting of gas through at least one of the plurality of gas vents,

wherein the first gas vent comprises vents comprise a plurality of openings of graduated

sizes radially arranged about the tubular body.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A muzzle stabilizer adapted to be attached to the end of a rapid-fire repeating firearm muzzle, the muzzle stabilizer comprising:

a tubular body comprising gas vents of graduated sizes radially arranged about the tubular body and at least one slot gas vent, wherein ~~at least one of the gas vents~~ of graduated sizes are nearest to a first end of the tubular body and have ~~[[has]]~~ an angle that is perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the tubular body, and ~~at least one of said at least one slot gas vent~~ is nearest to a second end of the tubular body and has an angle that is non-parallel to the angle of the gas vents of graduated sizes ~~each gas vent~~;

an attachment flange at the second ~~[[first]]~~ end of the tubular body, the attachment flange having a coupler adapted to mate with a corresponding coupler on the end of the muzzle;

a gas regulator threadedly engaged with the first ~~[[second]]~~ end of the tubular body such that rotation of the gas regulator adjusts the venting of gas through at least one of the gas vents of graduated sizes and said at least one slot gas vent.

15. (Original) The muzzle stabilizer of claim 14 wherein the radially arranged gas vents are disposed at an angle of ninety degrees with respect to the longitudinal axis of the tubular body.

16. (Currently Amended) The muzzle stabilizer of claim 15 wherein the angle of said at least

~~one slot tubular body further comprises a gas vent is disposed at an angle of thirty~~
degrees with respect to the longitudinal axis of the tubular body.

17. (Original) The muzzle stabilizer of claim 14 wherein the attachment flange is removably attached to the tubular body.

18. (Previously Presented) The muzzle stabilizer of claim 14 wherein the tubular body and the attachment flange have different internal diameters, the internal diameter of the attachment flange defining a first expansion chamber stage and the internal diameter of the tubular body defining a second expansion chamber stage.

19. (Original) The muzzle stabilizer of claim 14 further comprising a multistage expansion chamber.

20-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The kit of claim 20~~ A muzzle stabilizer kit comprising:
a muzzle stabilizer for a rapid-fire repeating firearm, the muzzle stabilizer comprising:
a tubular body comprising two or more gas vents, wherein a first gas vent, nearest
to a first end of the tubular body, has an angle that is perpendicular to a longitudinal axis
of the tubular body, and a second gas vent, nearest to a second end of the tubular body,
has an angle that is non-parallel to the angle of the first gas vent,
an attachment flange connected to the second end of the tubular body, the

attachment flange having an adjustment surface and a coupler adapted to mate with a corresponding coupler on the end of the muzzle of the firearm, and

a gas regulator threadedly engaged with the first end of the tubular body, the gas regulator having a driving surface for effecting rotation of the gas regulator relative to the tubular body, said rotation adjusting the venting of gas through at least one of the two or more gas vents; and

an adjusting tool comprising a rotational adjustment surface adapted to engage the adjustment surface of the attachment flange and a gas regulator adjusting surface adapted to engage the driving surface of the gas regulator,

wherein the first gas vent comprises ~~vents comprise~~ a plurality of openings ~~[[vents]]~~ of graduated sizes radially arranged about the tubular body.

23. (Currently Amended) The kit of claim 22 wherein the radially arranged openings ~~gas vents~~ are disposed at a ninety degree angle from the longitudinal axis of the tubular body and the second tubular body further comprises a gas vent is disposed at a thirty-degree angle ~~thirty degrees~~ from the longitudinal axis.

24-30. (Canceled)